

Marshall University

**Marshall Digital Scholar**

---

0064: Marshall University Oral History  
Collection

Digitized Manuscript Collections

---

1973

## Oral History Interview: Lucy White

Lucy White

Follow this and additional works at: [https://mds.marshall.edu/oral\\_history](https://mds.marshall.edu/oral_history)

---

### Recommended Citation

Marshall University Special Collections, OH64-70, Huntington, WV.

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Digitized Manuscript Collections at Marshall Digital Scholar. It has been accepted for inclusion in 0064: Marshall University Oral History Collection by an authorized administrator of Marshall Digital Scholar. For more information, please contact [zhangj@marshall.edu](mailto:zhangj@marshall.edu).

ORAL HISTORYGIFT AND RELEASE AGREEMENT

I, Lucy B. White, the undersigned, of  
Weston, County of Lewis State  
of West Virginia, grant, convey, and transfer to the James E.  
Morrow Library Associates, a division of the Marshall University Foundation, Inc.,  
an educational and eleemosynary institution, all my right, title, interest, and  
literary property rights in and to my testimony recorded on \_\_\_\_\_, 1973,  
to be used for scholarly purposes, including study rights to Reproduction.

LW Open and usable after my review  
initial

\_\_\_\_\_ Closed for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ years.  
initial

\_\_\_\_\_ Closed for my lifetime.  
initial

\_\_\_\_\_ Closed for my lifetime unless special permission.  
initial

Date June 1, 1976

Lucy B. White  
(Signature - Interviewee)

P.O. Box 466  
Address

Weston, W. Va.

Date June 1, 1976

Joseph M. White  
(Signature - Witness)



1170324869

DW: I'm interviewing my grandmother-in-law, Mrs. Lucy B. White of Weston, West Virginia for the Oral History Project for Appalachian Culture 455. Would you like to begin?

LBW: Okay. This is a short story of my life as well as I can remember. I was born April 5, 1900 at Camden, West Virginia to Charles and Eunice Yoke Butcher. We lived on a small farm. We were a large family, eight boys and six girls. All worked'n helped on the farm for we raised most of what we ate such as wheat, corn, beans, sugar cane, apples 'n other fruit. Dad was the supervisor of the county road. The road had to be worked on summer and winter for we had all dirt roads then and they got real bad in the winter. Well, I lived on the farm until 1917 and in June 24 I got married to Warner White and we came to Weston to live. I wasn't much of a cook, but soon learned. We were married three months before I was to meet Warner's mother. He took a few days off from work and we went to Normantown, West Virginia in Gilmer County. It took us two days for we drove a horse and buggy. We was late evening when we got to his mother's. It was just a small town but I think everyone was there to see Warner's wife. And me, I didn't know what to do, just a kid to his folks for he had been married before and he had a small son. We got along just fine. We brought him home with us. I was use to a big family and it didn't bother me any. And he was alot of company to me. Warner worked in the oil and gas fields. He drove a team of eighteen oxen for he moved the boiler and drilling line. 'N mud was so deep in winter oxen was about the only animal that could move a big load. Weston was a boom town then for oil field was big. There were boardwalks, gas lights, 'n before we got gas everyone burned oil lamps and coal fires. Gas was very scarce. The oil field work was good until 1919 and then they were laying them off the field men, so we went to, then Gilmer Company opened up and was a boom town until 1927 or 28. And then it was off so went back to Weston. By that time roads were black topped which was nice for a change. There were four

children born to us while we lived in Normantown and one was born to us in Weston. After we came back the depression was here then and work was very bad so Warner was transferred to Clarksburg and then he worked in Kentucky for a time (break in tape). We moved to Clarksburg in 1931. Work was good for a while. Warner had big trucks since 1920 but he worked in the gas fields so he was sent to Kentucky for a while but the work didn't last. It was getting bad then, there wasn't no work no place. And we had five childrens. And no one lived on my old home place where I was born so we moved out there where we could raise food to feed us all. Lived there until time got better. Warner bought him a new truck and worked for the gas company. As the boys grew he bought another truck. And then our oldest son was called into the service, 1942, I think. Our two daughters was married and lived in Virginia, and the other one lived in Georgia. We had it very good for a long time. And then the work was bad again. Warner got a job working in the timber. So then he had one truck and he bought horses to do the logging with so we built us a two bedroom house, a big living room, and a big long kitchen for I cooked for the saw mill and lumber men 'n was alot of cooking. 'N then the next job, next timber job was at Elizabeth, didn't last long for a tree fell on my husband and killed him. I came back to Weston to live. In 1952 I got me a job in the glass factory, I worked there for 1 (11) year, then retired for 11 years. Let's see now, where do you want me to begin. You ask me questions (further questions inaudible).

DW: Would you like to tell us if you remember anything particularly about what's on your mind about how things were like when you were growing up, how you prepared your food and what you did for fun?

LBW: Well what we did for fun. After we got through working, oh we played ball. In the wintertime we played fox 'n geese in the snow, had alot of fun. We had a long ways to walk to school 'n that taken alot of time, we walked a mile 'n when the road



was bad of course our dad would come after us on horses. Sometime he just let us go on the horses. Of course, my mother did all the cooking. Of course she had alot of kids to cook for 'n course we raised our own sugar cane. Had all of our food. Most all of our food we raised. Course when she made apple butter sugar was scarce and she used molasses to sweeten the apple butter. Made dried apples, sulphured apples, dried beans for then you didn't can no beans. Everything was dried, prepared in the sun or something. And my dad, course he was a worker on the road. But . . .

DW: Would you like to tell me one of those funny tales Joe is always talking about? The one where Grandpa White lifted up the back of the truck while someone else changed the flat tire.

LBW: He changed it.

DW: He did?

LBW: We lived at West Union and we were coming to Weston to visit. Course we was in a pick up truck. And he got to one side of the road. He was, course, you know, a big stout man. He just got out. I said, "Well I don't know what we're going to do. We don't have no jack." He said, "We don't need any." So he got a long slab of a thing. He lifted the truck up. And I put that under it. He just taken hold of it, taken the tire off, changed it, 'n put it back on, lifted the truck back up again, and set it down. So we came to Weston to visit.

DW: I heard tell that he was the best oxen driver around in those parts.

LBW: Oh, he was.

DW: Tell me how he got his oxen and how he learned to drive them.

LBW: He had oxen, he was drivin' oxen when I married him.

DW: He was?

LBW: Yeah. Course that's how I met him, I think. Oxen goes so slow and he couldn't get away from me.

DW: (Laughs).

LBW: Yeah, he was driving oxen when I met him. He had a big whip he carried. He'd crack that whip 'n yell at the old lead ox. That's all he'd have to do, yell at that lead ox; "Yeah, Barney!" Barney'd take off 'n the rest would all follow.

DW: That's what he'd yell, "Yeah Barney?"

LBW: "Yeah Barney," and the ox would take off. Course as I said his wagon was the only one that would haul, that could haul a boiler or a drilling line 'n he had the most oxen and that's the way they pulled 'em.

DW: Uh, did he learn how to drive the oxen from his father or . . .

LBW: No. He learned to drive oxens, I think, just hisself really, I imagine he did cause his father died when he was a baby.

DW: Did you have the oxen up until, you said you had two trucks?

LBW: Well he had the oxen up until I imagine 1921, I think. Then he sold the oxens, he bought horses then. And we had horses for a long time, 'n he had the boiler string with the horses. And, uh, then he bought trucks. Big trucks. The first big trucks he had was solid wheel truck, didn't have no inner tube. So he worked that a long time. Course that hauled the heavy stuff. And then he bought another truck. And at that time Dayton had grew up to be a young man. He drove that, so then he had two trucks in the oil field. At that time we lived in Normantown, it was a boom town. Course everything was there. I fed everybody coming and going. Men would drive up and holler for dinner.

Course I had little ones then. I'd tell 'em, "I'll get dinner for you, you take care of the babies." They did. They said, "We'll take care of the babies. You cook for us." So I'd fix their dinner. We never kept any all night cause our house wasn't that big. We just had a house big enough for our own family. But at noon, at the noon meal, I never knew how many I was going to cook for, 25 or 30. That was everyday up to Saturday. I didn't cook for them on Saturday. My daughter asked me the other day. She said, "Mom, I don't see how you ever done it all." She said, "I couldn't do it today. None of the rest of the kids could do it." I was use to it my mother did that for everyone coming and going, she never turned anybody away. When we lived on the old home place then I cooked for everybody that come along. Lot of people then didn't have work, then they was beggars, I never turned anybody away from the door. Whether it was coffee or a sack full of sandwiches, or whatever. I'd always give it to them. But, uh, when I was a kid we had riding horses. I was a lover of horses. We'd have horse races, ride those horses. My brother brought one out there 'n he told mom, "Don't let any of the girls on this horse because a woman has never rode it." So the grocery store was four mile away. She said, "I'll have to have groceries this morning." "I'll go get 'em." So, I went to the barn 'n saddled up this high spirited horse, 'n brought him out. 'N brought him up to the steps where I could get on him. "Oh Lucy, you can't ride that 'en cause a woman has never been on that horse. That's what Charlie said." I said, "I know mom." I said, "This horse don't know that I'm a woman. I'm no woman, just a kid. But I've got on a pair of overalls."

DW: Was that not common in your day, for a woman to wear overalls?

LBW: No. But us girls wore overalls cause we worked out in the field all the time. And we had to have overalls on. Course we didn't have girls' overalls

on. Dad bought us boy overalls. But that's what we had to have. So anyway I rode this horse to the store 'n back. I lead him on. We weren't gone very long cause he was a race horse. He was used on the race tracks. And, uh, so all I had to do was loosen up on the reins a little, he flew.

DW: He flew there and back.

LBW: I could out run the model T Ford, you know? I could out run them anytime.

DW: Did you keep riding him after that?

LBW: Yes, yes.

DW: Did you always have to wear overalls when you rode him?

LBW: Well I don't know whether I had to or not. I just liked to wear overalls when I rode. So we had a side saddle, but I would never ride side saddle. I always rode a man's saddle. So that's the way we got our groceries.

DW: Back then did you go to school like the kids do now?

LBW: Everyday and Saturday.

DW: And Saturday?

LBW: We didn't have no day off only Sunday. And, uh, we got Sunday off. Course the first thing on Sunday morning we'd get up and go to Sunday School and church. And that was dad's job. He'd take us all to Sunday School and church. Course when he got his flock there the church was about full.

DW: (Laughs).

LBW: Now he'd go taken us all.

DW: How far away was the church?

LBW: It was a mile.

DW: Did you walk?

LBW: In the summertime we walked. It was alot of fun.

DW: How long did church last?

LBW: About like it does today. We had Sunday School first and then we'd have church. We did alot of singing. We thought we was singing. And then they was a man came around wanted to teach singing lessons. So dad signed us girls up. So, we thought we'd learn how to sing. Of course, the singing, no place to stay then, dad taken the singing teacher into our home to stay at night. But he traveled in the day time going from place to place where he had a scholar to teach 'em to sing. So that's the way we learn to sing, learned the notes. After we did that we'd have to sit up at night 'n sing to dad. He'd like to hear hymns, and we'd sing. We thought we was wonderful singers. We was better than we was, I think.

DW: Uh, what did you study when you were in school?  
Just reading, writing . . .

LBW: Arithmetic, spelling, geography, history, English. Oh, I suppose that's about it. We had physiology, yes. Physiology, I think they called it. Is that the study of the body?

DW: Yes.

LBW: Yes. We had that. I wasn't very good in that. When I went to school then, I wasn't very good in English either. And every morning when I went to school I knew right then I knew I was going to have to stand on the floor.

DW: What's that whan you stand on the floor?

LBW: Uh, fer English. And I'd study that English till I think I studied it too much. I study 'n I'd

worry that I'd go to sleep worrying about it. I'd get up 'n go to school. I'd be worried about it before I got there. Soon as the door opened, I was dumped. Come up English class Lucy didn't know it. So I had to stand in the corner. Stand in the corner, then. Up close in the corner next to the blackboard. You couldn't look around or nothing. So I was there every morning for a long time. So one morning I told the teacher after he said, "I'm going to stand you in the corner this morning." I said, "No, you're not." We had a quarrel right there on the floor. I was just a snotty kid, he should a spanked me. But he didn't. He said, "Allright, I won't stand you on the floor anymore this winter. Take your seat." I taken my seat. Course I felt bad cause he was good to us kids. But anyway, I didn't have to stand on the floor anymore that winter. But I was a good scholar otherwise only I just couldn't make English. I couldn't do it. I don't know why.

DW: Was it a one room schoolhouse?

LBW: One room schoolhouse and the grades went anywhere from the first to the ninth. You had 'em all. And that schoolhouse was packed.

DW: Did the teacher live with one of the pupils?

LBW: No, he lived in, well most usually they got a teacher that lived in the community. Maybe he wouldn't have any farther to come to school than we did. It was either a he or a she. We always had a big school. Course we had ice skating then, we'd go down on the ice and go ice skating in the wintertime. When we had a man teacher, he'd form a ball team. We'd play baseball. Girls and boys both. And then on the last day of school, course our school was over in March.

DW: When did you start?

LBW: In Sept . . .

DW: In September and you went to March.

LBW: Yes.

DW: That was so you could help with the planting season?

LBW: Yes. That was the time you had to start tilling the ground, turn it over.

DW: How many acres did you have? Do you remember?

LBW: Yes. We just had a small farm. We had 48 acres. That was in, what we could turn over was in wheat, we raised our own wheat. We raised our own corn. And barley and everything like that we raised everything we ate but the staple part, sugar 'n coffee, things like that.

DW: How did you prepare your wheat? Does it have to be ground or . . .

LBW: Well yes, sure. But we didn't grind it all at once. We had big wheat bins, and a, after the, you have to raise your wheat. Then you have it thrashed. Cut it and thrash it.

DW: Did you thrash it yourself? Did you have a horse . . .

LBW: Machine that used some kind of oil. I don't know what kind of oil it used, wasn't gasoline. I don't know what it was. Anyhow we had thrashers. Raised our own wheat like that. Thrashed our oats 'n farmers would go from farm to farm helping one another with their crops. And the women would go along cooking, helping from house to house. So that was a big help to everybody. Then my mother she pieced quilts. Course we always had alot of quilts. Cause there was alot of scraps, she was always a sewing. Kept her busy really to make dresses for that many girls. She made lot of shirts for boys and pants for boys when they were little.

DW: Is that where you learned how to piece quilts from your mother?



LBW: Oh yes.

DW: Did she have a great big frame or loom that she put 'em on?

LBW: Yes. Big frame so there could be about six sit at the frame 'n quilt.

DW: Did you do that while you were growing up at home?

LBW: Yes, yes. We had a pretty good sized house when I was a girl. Then just a while before we got married our house caught fire and burnt up everything we had. We just had the clothes that was on our backs. Our father wasn't at home, he was working on the road someplace. And, uh, burnt everything up. We lived in a tent then 'n we was living in a tent when I got married. Was a big tent all the kids wasn't at home at that time but we had a big tent. That was a big down fall for dad. He had to start all over again. Built his own home. Course that goes on all time for people, even today. When we lived in Elizabeth. That's when he was in the lumber hauling logs. I cooked on a wood stove. And we hauled our own wood in. Course when he didn't have time to haul the wood in I did. That was most of the time that I did the wood cutting. So the day he died the day he was killed he had went to work. He started and then he come back. He said, "I don't think I'll go today. I caught up with the men and I don't think I'll go." Well, I said, "Don't go. Just put the horses in the barn and let 'em go. I, you don't catch up with the men I'll help you tomorrow." Cause I'd been helping him all the time. We both worked in the woods together. And then he came back and he said, "Well I'll go on. I caught up with 'em and I'll just stay up with 'em and you won't have to go tomorry." So he went on to work. And I went in, I was making a quilt. I went to work on it sewing on it. In about an hour one of the men came and hollered. I went to the door and asked him what was wrong. All the men called him "Pop." "A tree fell on Pop, we want you to come right quick."



So I left, course I didn't know how bad he was nor nothing. Course I was scared to death. We run all the way, it was about a mile to where he was at. We passed houses. One woman came out, she hollered at me, "Mrs. White, are you taking anything?" I said, "No, I wouldn't know what to take." She says, "Well wait a minute." She went back into the house 'n she got a sheet and she tore it into strips 'n give that to me and a bottle of alcohol. So me and this man we went on. And we climbed this mountain to where he was at. There was a man sitting under him holding him up. And he looked up at me, he knew me but he couldn't talk. I told the man to move and I sat down. So he got up and I sat down. I taken Warner's head in my arms and held him. He kept looking at me trying to tell me something. I'd talk to him. I seen his mouth was full of blood. I taken these strips of cloth and pulled the blood out of his mouth. After the ambulance came he never regained consciousness. He was a big man, it taken eight men to carry him off the hill to an ambulance. Course where they had been hauling logs the dust I expect it was a foot deep. And the men had a hard time to get him off that mountain. Got him down to the ambulance. I got in and rode in the ambulance with him to Parkersburg. When we got there went in the emergency room. So the doctors all got around him, rushed him in and went to examining him. So the nurse came to me. She said, "I don't know what we can do. The doctor says he's in bad shape." She says, "Do you want to call home?" I said, "Yes, I would like to very much." So she take me to the telephone. I called my son, Herbert, told him that his dad had been hurt very bad was in the hospital, St. Joseph's hospital in Parkersburg. Come right away. So he went to Sand Fork and got Dayton that's my stepson and they came that night. Came to the hospital. Their dad never rallied. He didn't speak to nobody. They taken me back home to Elizabeth. I cleaned up cause I was dirty, I cleaned up a little at the hospital. The nurse had taken me to the wash room and I washed up. But then we drove back to Elizabeth the next morning, then we came back to the hospital.

The nurses and doctors told my sons, "No use for your mother to stay here, taken her some place." So before I left, my husband's cousin came to the hospital. He heard it on the radio about him being hurt and he come to the hospital. Taken me to his home. They wouldn't let me go back to the hospital no more. I stayed at this Roscoe Bogg's home until my husband died which was three days.

DW: Would you like to tell us how your son Herb had to sneak around to play football?

LBW: Yeah (break in tape). Well then getting back to my kids. My son, Herbert, when he got old enough to play football his dad didn't want none of the kids to play football. Cause the older son asked his dad to play football and he said, "No, I don't want you to play football cause you'll get hurt." Then he give it up, he didn't get to play football. I told him to go ahead and play. He said, "Dad don't want me to." So he didn't play football. Then he was drafted into the service and he left. When it come up Herb's time to play football, he said, "What am I going to do?" I said, "Go ahead and play." He said, "Well, dad won't like it." I said, "Well you'll be in before he knows it cause I won't tell him." So every evening instead of hurrying home Herb would be a little later 'n a little later. So he kept worrying about him 'n worrying about him. He said, "I can't imagine what's keeping Herb. Why he don't come home when he should. Where's he at?" I said, "Oh, he'll be home." This evening Herb came in he was real late cause they were practicing cause it was coming up time to play football. So he didn't come till late and he kept worrying. So I thought well instead of worrying him I'm going to tell him. So I told him. I said, "Now you're worrying over Herb. I'm going to tell you where he's at." He said, "Well, where is he?" I said, "He's practicing for football. He's gonna go out for football." He said, "Who told him to?" I said, "I did. You'll like football." And he did. Herb come in. He said, "Herb, how come you're so late?" Herb said, "Oh, school kept me." I said,

"Herb, I already told him why you stayed." I said, "Instead of worrying him." "He was worrying his head off." I said, "Jest tell him why ye stayed." So he told him. He loved football. We went everyplace to the football games no matter where it was at. We just got in the car and we went. We went to Parkersburg, Morgantown, everyplace they played football. He wouldn't miss one of them.

DW: This was grandfather who went to see them?

LBW: No, Herb's dad. He wouldn't miss a football game.

DW: He liked 'em.

LBW: Oh yes. He'd get so mad if he thought they was keeping Herb on the bench. Oh man, he'd get mad cause he thought Herb should be out there every minute. He thought Herb was the star of the whole thing. And then it came up fer our other son to be in football. He never said a word he just let him go. So then most of the time we would have two sons on the football string.

DW: Joe said that Herb was captain of the football team.

LBW: Oh yeah, Herb was captain of the football team. Proud, proud boy to be captain. His dad I think was prouder than he was. He thought that was just it, crying out loud. He thought Herb was just it. And Charles was in the service, he was home on leave when football season was going on. Football game we was all sitting there. And the game behind. Course Herb was on the field. He got to talking something about Herb. Charles stood up. He said, "Mister if you want to play why don't you get out there and play. And if you don't want to play, you come outside the gate and you, and I'll play." Dad turned around. He said, "Charles, leave him alone. Everybody can think what they want to." "Now," he says, "He's not going to talk about Herb. He's out there playing. Let him keep still or me 'n him will play." He was mad, he got mad cause the man was talking about Herb. Something Herb

didn't do that suited him.

DW: What position did Herb play?

LBW: Played tight end on a single wing. But then at the time I knew, I tried to learn it all. It was nice going to the ball games. But he got knocked out lots of times. Once at Morgantown when I seen 'em bringing the stretcher I was going down to the field. His dad said, "You sit still, I'll go see what's wrong." So he rushed to the field. He said, "He's got three ribs broken." So they taken 'em. He didn't play anymore that game. He didn't play anymore the next game. Then he was knocked out several times. That's always scary when they're knocked out like that and have to be carried off the field. He wasn't carried off the field as many times as his brother Roy was. He was carried off the field lots because he had hemorrhages of the nose. He'd just about bleed to death and they'd carry him off the field. The last winter he played he only played about half the game.

DW: Would you like to tell us about the large families? The one you were from and the one your brother had.

LBW: Well in my family course there were fourteen children. As I said eight boys, six girls. Well when I lived at Normantown my brother, my youngest brother, he came out to live with us and work in the oil fields. Course I only had the four children then. He couldn't stand the crying he thought that was horrible. And when they'd get sick at night and their dad was gone. If he was home, I'd wake him up to help me with the kids. "I'm not gonna have no kids when I get married. We just won't have any." So he finally got married and he had fourteen kids. And I was down to his house and they was all there. Some was married, some of them wasn't. They was a crying, screaming, hollering. You couldn't hear yourself. So we was sitting at the table, I said, "Ray?" He said, "Yes?" I said, "You remember what you told me?" "Oh Lucy, I've told you so many things, I don't know."

I said, "You told me you wasn't gonna have no kids." I said, "God sure blessed you," I said, "You got a houseful." He looked at me and laughed. He said, "Yes, he did." "Really," he says, "I'm proud of 'em. The law has never been after them." He said, "I'm proud of my kids." He said, "Now they're noisy." I said, "Yes, that's what you couldn't stand." He says, "I can't stand it yet."

DW: Would you like to tell us about cooking on your wood stove (chatter)?

LBW: When Warner and I lived on the farm, we lived up above Jennings Run a big farm up there. We had two boys, Herb and Roy that went to school. Course they didn't like it up there cause they had to walk a mile before they got to their car, to come out of there to go to school. And Herb was on the football team. So he would sometimes be back in his grades. The teacher called me in-the principal called me in. "Could you come in tomorrow with the boys?" "Yes sir, I'll be there." So this morning when I went, it was real bad in the winter, cold. 'N I was in the principal's office when he got there. He said, "Oh you beat me." I said, "Yes, I want to know what you have to say." He said, "Well, you know Herb is back in his English." I said, "Yes, I know that and you didn't do what you was suppose to do." I said, "You knew Herb was back in his English. You kept him on, passed him when he was playing football cause you couldn't do without him. He was one of your main players and he was captain of your team. You passed him. Then when football season was over Herb was back in his English. You give him a book and you told him, 'Now Herb, if you report on this book, I'll pass you.' Herb reported on that book. And at that time you said it was good. Now you won't accept it." I said, "What happened?" He said, "Well it goes deeper than that." I said, "Well what is it?" He said, "Do you know Herb is in love?" "Sure I know Herb's in love." I said, "It's just naturally Herb's in love." I looked at him and I said, "Mr. Wilde were you ever in love?" His face

turned red. He said, "Yes, I'll have to admit I was in love." "Well then don't best down somebody else cause they're in love. I know Herb is in love." And when it come up to graduation he wouldn't let Herb graduate with his class. "You can't be in the class." I don't know really whether he could a done that if we had a pushed it. But Herb didn't get to go with his class to graduate. So at that time we had a filling station. One of Herb's teachers come up to the filling station. He said, "Mrs. White, tell Herb to come up to my house and I'll give him his diploma." I said, "Mr. Bland, you might as well keep that diploma, cause Herb's not going to come after it. Mr. Wilde needs it worse than Herb did." So it went on like that till one evening. When he knew Herb was there he brought it up. Mr. Bland brought the diploma up and he gave it to Herb. Said, "Herb, here's your diploma." Herb said, "You better give it to Mr. Wilde. Probably he needs it." Said, "I know it wasn't right a him keeping you out of that graduating class." Herb said, "Well, why didn't somebody say so?" So that was one privilege Herb didn't get to do, he didn't get to walk with his graduating class which I thought was very sad. And we didn't go, wasn't on of us went.

DW: Would you like to tell us about the dogs you use to keep?

LBW: Oh, I've had alot of dogs. We always kept our dogs. Not when we lived in town so much but when we lived out. We had one when we lived at Normantown when my kids were little. A collie, she was good. She was gave to us by somebody. My husband brought her in. It was wintertime she was as muddy as she could be. She was just a puppy. And I said, "What's her name?" He said, "I don't know." I said, "Well, we'll call her lady." We washed her, me and the girls washed her, combed her, and she just shined. She grew up with them kids. In the summertime I would put them out. She wouldn't let a man in, man in the gate. And a we'd been someplace in the car. We had a Model T Ford. We was down below



the house a coming when we saw some man jump the fence. We got up there just in time to see he had the seat tore out of his pants. He said, "You're not allowed to have a dog that will attack people." Warner said, "That dog wouldn't attacked you if you'd a stayed out of that yard. You had no business in there." He said, "Well I wasn't long in getting out." Warner says, "I can see you wasn't." Said, "We seen you jump the fence." And she still had the piece of rag in her mouth tore out of his pants. So they was making, building a road along there at that time. And our water well was the only place they had water enought to water their horses. Everybody made it here at noon to water their horses. So this one guy he thought he knew all about dogs. I'd have the girls to hold the dog set out on the porch and the dog would lay between them. So this man says, "Oh, you needn't hold that dog for me I'm not afraid of dogs." So I was standing in the door, and I said, "Let her go, girls." They just got up and come in. They said, "Mommy, she'll bite him." "Well he said he wasn't afraid of her. Just let her alone." So she just laid there. He pumped his water had two great big buckets of water, to take to his horses. Just as he came around the corner, and got in front of her, she jumped off'n that porch and nabbed him. Got hold his leg and tore his pants clear down back of his leg and he dropped his water. He didn't take time to open the gate. Over the fence he went. He was as white as he could be. He run over to the grist mill where they ground wheat right there by us. And he went over there and sit on the steps. I went out, "What do you have to say about dogs?" Well, he said, "I'll never say that again." I said, "You probably won't get the girls to hold the dogs for you anymore either." But he got so he'd give the girls a nickel a piece if they'd hold the dog for him. So when we moved to Weston we gave the dog to a farmer for a cow dog. He said she was wonderful. He just wouldn't part with her at all. She was really a good dog. Course that's what we had to do with the pony. We had a pony. We had to get rid of our pony when we moved to town. Course that was alot of tears shed. That pony was really

a baby. She'd find the kitchen door open in she'd come. She step up and trom right in. She'd eat bread, cake, anything like that the kids fed her. Well getting back to the family. I have nine grandchildren. I have five grandsons and four granddaughters. And they are all married but three, two granddaughter and one grandson. Of the three that's married, two's in college, one works at Krogers. He has a very good job. I have a grandson that's graduated from college, they live in Huntington. He works 'n studies. His wife's in college, graduate in December. Then I have a grandson that lives in Glenville, they're both married, him and his wife. She'll graduate this summer, he'll graduate in the fall. Then I have a granddaughter and grandson that's in college there that's not married. A granddaughter that's in college in Roanoke, Virginia, in dancing school. Then I have a granddaughter that's a school teacher and her husband taught school for two, three years and now he works for the Department of Welfare. And then I have a grandson in college at Marshall, Marshall University. So all my grandchildren are gonna turn out smarter than I am. Because I just went to grade school. If I'd gone on to high school I couldn't got there really because the mud was deeper than I was tall.

DW: You do alot of quilting now. Do you use a frame?

LBW: Yes, I use a frame. I have a square frame and a big round hoop that I use that I really like better than the square one. The one I made my bedspread on was the round one cause you can handle it anyway you want to and your quilt don't mess up. I got two or three quilts ready to quilt really I don't know when I'll quilt them, probably sometimes this winter, maybe one.

DW: What about the embroidered bedspread that you did. Did you learn how to do that when you were a girl?

LBW: No. I didn't do any sewing when I was a girl. Really I had an older sister that did all the sewing. My mother wouldn't let the younger girls bother her



sewing machine. And I didn't know nothing when I got married. I didn't know anything about sewing. So when we bought our furniture along with our furniture we bought us a sewing machine. And when they delivered our furniture, it was all delivered on one truck and the sewing machine. So I began sewing what I sewed, I don't know, probably wasn't very nice. But I had a little baby sister that was at home then. The first thing I made was her a dress. Of course, probably everybody would laugh at the dress now, but I thought it was beautiful. It was really something to learn how to sew and not know how.

DW: Was it a treadle type machine?

LBW: Yes, it was a treadle type machine. I sewed on it till about two years ago that I gave it to my daughter, Dale. And she gave me her electric machine. So I have an electric machine to sew on now but I have alot of trouble with it, can't keep it fixed. If I had my old treadle I could just sit down and pump it along. Course I don't think I could do that now, I get too tired pumping a machine. But I did like to sew on it. But none of my grandchildren that's married has any babies. They're kind of slow they're slower than I was on that. I think they are all waiting till they get graduated so they'll be smart enough to raise their children. I wasn't smart enough. My children all growed up the natural way. Well, getting back to when I lived on a farm the way we prepared out fruit and vegetables cause nothing was canned then. We'd peel our apples and hang 'em in the sun to dry 'em. Or mother'd make what we'd call sulphured apples. 'N she'd put them in a big jar and use sulphur in them. I was a kid then I don't know how much sulphur she put in or anything. I know they were awful good cause us kids would slip in the jar and grab a handful and take it outside 'n eat it cause they taste like new apples. She would string her beans and hang them outside. Kill our beef, we'd always have a beef some of that down in salt brine, hang some up and dry. Course people don't

do that today. It was always good beef. Course winter's was cold and what we hung up to dry it was froze most of the time. You couldn't hardly cut it but what we put down in brine was really delicious. Mother always put the steaks and alot of the roasts down in brine. And our hogs course the hog part we'd salt them. And after they'd taken all the salt or as much as they could use. Dad put 'em down in a big box that he had built specially to put pork in. So he'd fill that big pork box with hams, shoulders, and sides of meat. 'N the sausage we had alot of sausage, two gallon stone jars. She would fry it 'n then fill these jars and then the drippings that was off of the sausage she poured over top of it. And it would keep good all winter long like that. We were a big family we had plenty to eat though. We never went hungry as I know of. But for Christmas, our Christmas we always had alot of fun. So many of us. Our dad played Santa Claus course we didn't know it. We didn't know it was dad, we thought he'd gone someplace. We didn't get much for Christmas and we never had up a tree. But we'd always have our, we'd hang out stockings before we'd go to bed. Course when Santa Claus came to us in the evening each one of us got a pair of stockings. Our stockings was all got in Weston. Dad always had a special store he went to and that was Grandpa Kaplan's. Stocking and shoes wasn't worth wearing unless he got them there. So each one of us got a pair of stockings for Christmas. Then in our stocking that we hung up course we was always glad to get a new stocking to hang up. He couldn't buy very many stockings or shoes, we got one pair of shoes a winter. And we hung up a new stocking for Santy Claus. And in his stocking each one got a stick of candy. We were just happy as we could be. We thought it was wonderful that Santy Claus would think of us to bring us a stick of candy. After him visiting us in the evening it was just wonderful that he'd come back at night and put a stick of candy in our stocking. But the nicest part was we'd always have a nice big dinner. If we didn't have a big turkey to roast we raised our own turkeys, geese, duck, chicken. So some Christmas we'd have turkeys or geese with all

the stuffing, sweet potatoes, 'n everything. Nice big dinner, for our vegetable such as cabbage and potatoes, turnips, we called 'em hanovers and I think they call 'em rudabagas now. We buried them in pits in the garden. Buried our apples like that. We always had bushels of apples buried. We had big pits in the garden for them. It and out potatoes pit was never torn down. It was built like a little house and we could go in it and get our potatoes and apples. Our cabbage we buried in rows. You left the roots sticking out all you had to do was go out and pull one up. The cabbage was always bleached out so nice and white. That's the way we did our cabbage, celery, 'n most everything like that kept outside.

DW: Was celery kept in rows too? Tops down?

LBW: Yeah. We'd make a ridge up around the celery and up around cabbage. We pulled the cabbage though and let the root stick up. We put straw over them and piled dirt up around them. I think really (break in tape).